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Editor and Manager

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TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 1919.



DEMILITARIZATION OF TROOPS.

"There is more than a possibility that we are demobilizing our troops and war-like preparations with too great speed," says the State. "We refer, of course, to all associated powers of the war, and not to this country alone." The point is made by the State that every now and then an ugly report comes from Germany, or an ugly situation arises, which might develop into something requiring an armed force of some proportions on the part of the allies. Perhaps the State is right, but we suspect its fears are groundless. Germany, when well-organized and in fighting shape, had to quit to save its skin and Germany, disorganized, can do nothing. The anarchistic and Bolshevistic ideas cropping up now and then in Germany, of course, ought to be knocked into a cocked hat in one way or another, and a force of American and allied troops under arms would serve as a preventive measure of desired strength. Bolshevism may increase when 3,000 miles is put between the American soldier and the scenes of action and a good number of miles between the British and French troops and the center of Berlin, and the armies of all reduced to minimum strength, but Germany's bluffs are every one quite plainly marked "Made in Germany," and are recognizable anywhere. This is one: The State says:

"Two days ago it was reported through Zurich, Switzerland, that the German cabinet and government had decidedly 'unanimously' not to submit to further coercion on the part of the allies.

"Yesterday we learned that negotiations of the armistice commission at Spa had been broken off, because the Germans had rejected the demand of the allied commission for the immediate unconditional surrender of the German merchant fleet. The Germans replied with a counter proposal or demand, that the surrender would not be made unless food be sent in return for the seizure of the ships. Last evening at Paris the supreme council merely gave out notice that the negotiations had been broken off."

The German cabinet and government will submit. They will submit to any terms imposed by the allied governments because they have to submit to them, and know what will happen if they do not. If they can bluff the allied powers into easy terms, so much gain for the Germans, but they can't. As a matter of fact, the allied governments are in better position to fight now than at the time the United States entered the conflict, and if it were necessary to come to a resumption of hostilities it can be done. But it will not be necessary, because Germany has been whipped and Germany knows it.

The advisability of a complete demobilization of the forces of the allied powers is an open question.

WOULD AN EXTRA SESSION AVAIL.

Should the governor call an extra session of the legislature for some time during the summer, there arises the question: Would it avail anything? There would, of course, be the same members attending which attended the regular session, and they having voted upon the good roads legislation, could hardly be expected to change their views and vote for the proposed highway legislation. There would have elapsed little time for the sounding of public sentiment, in the hardly probable event that the legislature did not know what is the sentiment while the legislation was under discussion, but is likewise true that some time will have elapsed and it is quite possible that the legislators returning home from the regular session were met at the depot by the knowledge that the people were keenly disappointed in not securing some legislation by which the highways might be improved.

The people ARE keenly disappointed. The governor of the state has said in a public statement that he is keenly disappointed. And there is reason for that disappointment. The advancement of the state industrially, agriculturally, financially, socially, educationally, religiously, and in every other conceivable way, has been seriously retarded. Good roads are conducive to all of these things. Good roads increase the earning power of man, teams and motor driven vehicles, farm machinery; enhance the value of property.

But the legislature refused to give to the state what would materially increase the benefits derived from all vocations and all callings.

There might be one way to get good roads legislation from the members of the present general assembly at an extra session. That is, present them with petitions signed by a majority of the voters of the state and tell them "that is what we want you to do;" then see that it is done. If the legislature can not see, then some one will have to see for them.

Should an extra session be called and avail nothing, it would be a heavy expense upon the state for which there would be no results.

But if there is any assurance that the legislature will make any provisions for better roads in South Carolina, by all means, let's have the extra session.

SOUNDING THE SENTIMENT.

Elsewhere in this paper is printed a "questionnaire" which the voters of the county are asked to clip out, fill in and mail to The News. We are making an effort to sound the sentiment in the county toward good roads without taking any chance on mistakes. We propose to reach every voter in Lancaster county and get his views, and when this information is secured we will unload on the Lancaster delegation in the general assembly. There is some probability yet of an extraordinary session of the legislature some time during the summer, and before it is too late to take advantage of the federal aid of \$1,400,000 which has been apportioned to South Carolina. If such extraordinary session should be called, it might be possible that our representatives would go down to Columbia and vote against all the good roads laws proposed unless fortified with the knowledge that a very great majority of the voters in their county are backing good roads.

The News does not know just how far it will go with this plan. Certainly to the point of covering Lancaster county, and if some other agency, the papers in the other counties, the state automobile association, or others do not take it up, this paper may carry its investigation throughout the state. To begin with, however, it will confine the investigation to its own county, and we want to ask the voters to fill up the blanks and send them in as early as possible. There may be an easier way to get the opinions of the voters than that which we have adopted

but there is none safer or more guarded against mistakes, and it is the certainty in the matter that is interesting. Armed with this information from all over the state the opposition encountered in the legislature would not be quite so formidable.

Voters are asked to fill in an answer to each question, either yes or no. If the voter has any suggestions to offer it would be well to write them on a separate sheet and enclose them with the "questionnaire."

SCISSORS AND PASTE.

As Repentant as the Devil.

(Manufacturers Record.)
No decent man would ever care to sit in a league of nations with the representatives of a nation of murderers and looters. Moreover, Germany is not submissive; it is not penitent; it is nursing its hatred and already planning for its world-looting schemes for the future.

Germany is whipped and repentant in exactly the same way and to the same degree that the devil is whipped and repentant, and not to any greater extent.

Couldn't Abolish Skirt.

(New York Evening Post.)
Dr. Mary Walker wore to the last the trousers authorized by congress. They were to her a badge of honor, recalling that she was the first woman to practice medicine, the only woman ever to be exchanged for a male prisoner of war, and all her life a champion of the equality of the sexes. Neither Dr. Mary Walker, however, nor Lydia Thompson, nor the bicycle, nor war itself could abolish the invincible skirt. And when suffrage triumphed, it was not because its leaders put on mannish garb. The more feminine they appeared, the more persuasive they were. By trousers Dr. Walker will be chiefly remembered. Prof. John Bascomb used to say that the pioneers among women are always eccentric. Posterity does them injustice if it lets eccentricity discount their claims to respect and gratitude.

Cotton Handicapped.

(Greenwood Index-Journal.)
President Wilson has declined to lift the embargo on cotton at this time, holding that the terms of the armistice would be violated in so doing. The effort to have the embargo lifted in spite of the president's attitude failed in the senate last night by the vote of 36 to 23, so that the embargo will have to stand.

The event, however, calls attention to the fact that there is an embargo and that it is one of the things which help to hold cotton down. So soon as peace is declared this restriction will be removed and there should be a greater demand for cotton and cotton goods. If cotton is holding its own now, it should be greatly improved in price when the embargo is lifted.

The adoption by the senate, however, of the amendment presented by Senator E. D. Smith, prohibiting the contracts if the house agrees, will be of great help in that there will be less encouragement to speculate in the commodity when one may be called on to deliver light grades of cotton. Short sellers will be more careful and buyers who really want good cotton will be encouraged to buy contracts for future delivery.

His Old Job or Better.

(Spartanburg Journal.)
The public of the state will doubtless approve of the action of the South Carolina Cotton Manufacturers' association, in session here yesterday, at which time recommendations were adopted under which every cotton worker who has entered the service of his country either in the army or the navy will be employed at the same position he formerly held when he secures his discharge. It is understood that the action met with the approval of all the seventy-eight manufacturers present and that there was no unfavorable vote cast.

The only suggestion that the public could offer to the cotton mill men in this connection is that instead of giving the veteran his former job back, he be provided with a better one if such one exists. The man who left the job to enter the service may be no better prepared now to do the class of work in which he was formerly engaged than he was when he left it, but the probabilities are that he will fill the position much more successfully. We can hardly imagine any position, no matter of what nature, where the services of a man who has been through the experiences accorded those in the army and the navy will not prove valuable. It may be that there will be no evident value, but

there will be indirect benefits to be realized.

The people of the entire country are doubtless in sympathy with the movement to give the discharged soldier or sailor his old position back, but they will more heartily approve of an effort to give him a better one if such one exists.

Shall Schools Grow Worse?

(Sumter Item.)
"No person who is fit to take the time and money and opportunity of the children of this great democratic republic for the purpose of fitting them for life, for making a living, and for virtuous citizenship should be asked to work for less than \$1,000 a year in any community or in any state."

This is the conclusion of United States Commissioner of Education Claxton, who wants to see a large increase in salaries of school teachers. Many of the best teachers are leaving the schools for better paid positions. In Washington, they get more as elevator operators. The places left vacant "are taken by men and women of less native ability, less education and culture, and less training and experience. Many of the places are not filled at all. As an inevitable result the character of the schools is being lowered just at a time when it ought to be raised to a much higher standard."

More than 15,000 schools throughout the country have had to shut down altogether. Schools in big cities suffer less, for their ranks are recruited from country schools. This leaves the country schools vacant, or taught by incompetent persons.

The remedy would seem to be a sharp—to many people an appalling—raise in the salaries of teachers everywhere, together with an equally sharp raising of the requirements for the job. First-class people will not stay on third-class salaries all their lives. It is because the salaries have been third-class for so long that there are so many small persons in places of authority in any big school system.

Eliminating the unfit by jacking up the standards with vigorous wrench, then paying the successful candidate first-class salaries, would be wise. It would be a surgical process, productive of temporary distress and doubtless closing even more schools for a year or two.

The children of this nation deserve first-class teaching. Nothing less is worth the children's time and our money. No means which will actually produce the desired result can be too drastic.

SOUTH CAROLINA FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

To South Carolina Club Women:
The executive board of the South Carolina Federation of Women's clubs takes pleasure in announcing that the 21st annual convention of the federation will be held at Winthrop college April 29 and 30 and May 1. This convention will be primarily a business convention. Attractive programs are being arranged by Mrs. Plowden and Mrs. Lucas for the two evening sessions and informal social features will doubtless be introduced, but the limited space of the two day session will be largely devoted to the transaction of important business.

Dr. D. B. Johnson, president of Winthrop college, has at all times shown great interest in the activities of the federation and has upon various occasions extended many courtesies to the club women of the state. In an address of welcome extended to the women in attendance upon one of the clubwomen's courses at Winthrop summer school, Dr. Johnson said that Winthrop's mission is not only to serve the girls of South Carolina but likewise to serve the women of the state. It therefore seems especially fitting that the meeting place of our coming annual convention should be at our great state normal college. Dr. Johnson has offered the use of the large auditorium and other smaller convention halls for the various conferences of the convention. Arrangements are being made for accommodating all the club women in one dormitory. A most reasonable rate has been made for board—\$1.50 per day. This rate includes room and three meals per day. There will, therefore, be no incidental expenses connected with the stay in Rock Hill.

All clubs are requested to send their full representation. It is suggested that selection of delegates be made at once in order to insure a full attendance. This is a vitally important convention with much work to be done in connection with the change from the war program of 1918-1919 to a reconstruction program for the club year of 1919-1920. Let us all plan to do our utmost toward making this "coming-of-age convention" the greatest

Bank No. 33. Statement of the Condition of the

The Bank of Lancaster

Located at Lancaster, S. C., at the close of business March 4th, 1919.

RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts	\$640,035.99
Overdrafts	8,766.57
Bonds and Stocks owned by the bank	147,100.00
Bonds deposited	248,500.00
Furniture and fixtures	2,450.89
Banking house	6,042.18
Other real estate owned	3,500.00
Due from banks and bankers	143,569.03
Currency	21,664.00
Gold	2,660.00
Silver and minor coin	4,142.12
Checks and cash items	1,791.86

Total \$1,230,222.64

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	\$ 50,000.00
Surplus fund	100,000.00
Undivided profits, less current expenses and taxes paid	38,964.14
Dividends unpaid	100.00
Individual deposits subject to check	\$429,457.61
Savings deposits	197,530.71
Bond deposits	248,500.00
Time certificates of deposit	108,571.56
Certified checks	5.84
Cashier's checks	2,059.59

Notes and bills rediscounted 45,000.00
Time deposit interest account 10,033.19

Total \$1,230,222.64

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

County of Lancaster—ss.

Before me came Geo. W. Williams, Cashier of the above named bank, who, being duly sworn, says that the above and foregoing statement is a true condition of said bank, as shown by the books of said bank.

GEO. W. WILLIAMS,

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th day of March, 1919.

H. T. CANNON,
Notary Public S. C.

Correct Attest:

LEROY SPRINGS,
WADDY C. THOMSON,
L. C. PAYSEUR,
Directors.

convention in the history of the South Carolina federation.

Your friend and co-worker,
(Mrs. Leroy) Lena Jones Springs,
President.

TUNNEL UNDER ENGLISH CHANNEL IS CONSIDERED

France and England May Jointly Finance Undertaking—Afford Employment to Discharged Men.

London, March 17.—The prospect of a tunnel under the English channel to France is being considered by the government among its projects for after-the-war. Andrew Bonar Law, government spokesman, in making this announcement in the house of commons, said he was discussing the matter with Premier Lloyd George as a means of finding employment for discharged soldiers.

The Daily Mail claims to have definite information that the British and French governments have agreed to the construction of a tunnel under the channel and that the details are now being discussed by a special commission in Paris, which also is considering the building of tunnels under the Bosphorus and the Strait

of Gibraltar.

The engineering plans for the channel, according to the Daily Mail, are so far advanced that work could be begun immediately.

"It is proposed," says the Daily Mail, "to start the tunnel some distance inside both countries, instead of near the coast, as was originally intended, so as to avoid the risks of a fall of the cliffs, such as already has occurred on the British side near the point where the work would have been begun."

In addition to tracks, the tunnel will carry telephone and telegraph wires, superseding the present seabed cables, and also pneumatic tubes for carrying letters and parcels. The French and British railroads concerned are willing to finance the scheme, but the two governments wish to exercise control of some sort of joint state finance for the work may be adopted."

Bonus Applies to S. A. T. C.

Miss Etta Skipper requests The News to state that the bonus of \$60 to discharged soldiers and sailors applies also to the S. A. T. C. boys, and they are entitled to it under the same regulations as the soldiers.

THE FRONT—AT LAST.

(Written by Major William Sinkler Manning of the 316th Infantry, 79th Division, who was killed in action on the Meuse Nov. 6, 1918. He was a son of Governor Manning of South Carolina, and a member of the Washington staff of The New York Times. The poem was published in The Stars and Stripes of Feb. 14.)

Now I am free to do, and give, and pay,
Not stinting one for other debts I owe.
My debts were these: To smile with friendly show
On all about, too close for other play;
To say to all the nothings I could say,
And miss the silence which my friends would know;
To heed the clock that ticked me to and fro
To ill-done tasks, long-drawn, diluting day.

But now I am come to a wide, free space
Of easy breath, where my straight road doth lie;
And all my debts are funded in this place
To one debt, though the figures mount the sky.
My debts are one, my foe before my face—
I shall not mind the paying when I die.
SINKLER MANNING.